

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A contents distribution system comprising a terminal device and a contents distribution apparatus for distributing a content including at least one of video and/or and music data ~~from a contents distribution apparatus to a said~~ terminal device via a network,

wherein ~~the said~~ contents distribution apparatus comprises:

a content storage section operable to store a content and specific data concerning a predetermined special effect to be applied to the content and to restrict a reproduced substance of the content, the content and the specific data being stored as a pair;

a content management data setting section operable to set management data, wherein the management data ~~at least~~ contains a flag indicating whether or not to apply the predetermined special effect to the content during reproduction, and conditions of use which need to be satisfied in order to reproduce the content without the predetermined special effect; and

a transmission section operable to transmit the content, the specific data, and the management data to the terminal device; and

wherein ~~the said~~ terminal device comprises:

a reception section operable to receive the content, the specific data, and the management data ~~from the said~~ transmission section; and

a reproduction control section operable to reproduce the content with or without the predetermined special effect in accordance with the specific data and the presence or absence of the flag in the management data, and to reset the flag when the conditions of use contained in the management data are satisfied.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution system according to claim 1, wherein:

the specific data is special effects data which is generated based on information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which apply the predetermined special effect is to be applied; and

when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the~~ said reproduction control section in the said terminal device reproduces-is operable to reproduce the content by applying the special effects data to the content.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution system according to claim 1, wherein;

the specific data is attribute data consisting of information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to apply-which the predetermined special effect is to be applied; and

when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the~~ said reproduction control section in the said terminal device utilizes-is operable to utilize further data to generate special effects data in accordance with the type and the portion specified by the attribute data, the further data being previously stored in ~~the said~~ reproduction control section for realizing special effects, and ~~reproduces-reproduce~~ the content by applying the special effects data to the content.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution system according to claim 1, wherein;

~~the said~~ contents distribution apparatus further comprises a content selection section operable to select, as the specific data, either special effects data which is generated based on information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which apply the predetermined special effect is to be applied, or attribute data consisting of the information concerning the type and the portion, such that the special effects data is selected for ~~said a~~ terminal device having a relatively low processing ability and the attribute data is selected for ~~said a~~ terminal device having a relatively high processing ability;

~~wherein,~~ when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the said~~ reproduction control section in said terminal device having a relatively low processing ability reproduces-is operable to reproduce the content by applying the special effects data to the content; and

when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the~~ said reproduction control section in said terminal device having a relatively high processing ability ~~utilizes~~ is operable to utilize further data to generate special effects data in accordance with the type and the portion specified by the attribute data, the further data being previously stored in ~~the~~ said reproduction control section for realizing special effects, and ~~reproduces~~ reproduce the content by applying the special effects data to the content.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution system according to claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ said content selection section in ~~the~~ said contents distribution apparatus ~~selects~~ is operable to select the specific data to be appended to the content based on processing ability information which is supplied from ~~the~~ said terminal device.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said contents distribution apparatus further comprises a data storage section operable to store the management data.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said contents distribution apparatus further comprises a distribution content reproduction confirmation section operable to reproduce, for confirmation, the content with or without the predetermined special effect in accordance with the flag in the management data set by ~~the~~ said content management data setting section.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A contents distribution method for distributing a content including at least one of video and/or and music data from a contents distribution apparatus to a terminal device via a network,

wherein, in the contents distribution apparatus ~~performs~~, said method comprises:

~~a step of~~ storing a content and specific data concerning a predetermined special effect to be applied to the content and to restrict a reproduced substance of the content, the content and the specific data being stored as a pair;

~~a step of~~ setting management data, wherein the management data ~~at least~~ contains a flag indicating whether or not to apply the predetermined special effect to the content during reproduction, and conditions of use which need to be satisfied in order to reproduce the content without the predetermined special effect; and

~~a step of~~ transmitting the content, the specific data, and the management data to the terminal device; and

wherein, in the terminal device performs, said method comprises:

~~a step of~~ receiving the content, the specific data, and the management data transmitted from the contents distribution apparatus;

~~a step of~~ reproducing the content with or without the predetermined special effect in accordance with the specific data and the presence or absence of the flag in the management data; and

~~a step of~~ resetting the flag when the conditions of use contained in the management data are satisfied.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution method according to claim 8, wherein;

the specific data is special effects data which is generated based on information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which apply the predetermined special effect is to be applied; and

when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the step of said reproducing of the content,~~ which is performed by the terminal device, reproduces the content by applying the special effects data to the content.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution method according to claim 8, wherein;

the specific data is attribute data consisting of information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which apply the predetermined special effect is to be applied; and

when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the step of said~~ reproducing of the content, which is performed by the terminal device, utilizes further data to generate special effects data in accordance with the type and the portion specified by the attribute data, the further data being previously stored in the terminal device for realizing special effects, and reproduces the content by applying the special effects data to the content.

**11. (Currently Amended)** The contents distribution method according to claim 8, wherein:

in the contents distribution apparatus, said method further ~~performs a step of~~ comprises selecting, as the specific data, either special effects data which is generated based on information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which ~~apply~~ the predetermined special effect is to be applied, or attribute data consisting of the information concerning the type and the portion, such that the special effects data is selected for ~~said a~~ terminal device having a relatively low processing ability and the attribute data is selected for ~~said a~~ terminal device having a relatively high processing ability;

~~wherein,~~ when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the step of said~~ reproducing of the content, which is performed by ~~said the~~ terminal device having a relatively low processing ability, reproduces the content by applying the special effects data to the content; and

when the flag indicates that the predetermined special effect must be applied, ~~the step of said~~ reproducing of the content, which is performed by ~~said the~~ terminal device having a relatively high processing ability, utilizes further data to generate special effects data in accordance with the type and the portion specified by the attribute data, the further data being previously stored in the terminal device for realizing special effects, and reproduces the content by applying the special effects data to the content.

**12. (Currently Amended)** The contents distribution method according to claim 11, wherein ~~the step of said~~ selecting of the specific data, which is performed by the contents

distribution apparatus, selects the specific data to be appended to the content based on processing ability information which is supplied from the terminal device.

**13. (Currently Amended)** The contents distribution method according to claim 8, wherein, in the contents distribution apparatus, said method ~~further performs a step of~~ comprises storing the management data.

**14. (Currently Amended)** The contents distribution method according to claim 8, wherein, in the contents distribution apparatus, said method ~~further performs a step of~~ comprises reproducing, for confirmation, the content with or without the predetermined special effect in accordance with the flag in the management data set by ~~the step of said~~ setting of the management data.

**15. (Currently Amended)** A contents distribution apparatus for distributing a content including at least one video ~~and/or and~~ music data to a terminal device via a network, said content distribution apparatus comprising:

a content storage section operable to store a content and specific data concerning a predetermined special effect to be applied to the content and to restrict a reproduced substance of the content, the content and the specific data being stored as a pair;

a content management data setting section operable to set management data, wherein the management data ~~at least~~ contains a flag indicating whether or not to apply the predetermined special effect to the content during reproduction, and conditions of use which need to be satisfied in order to reproduce the content without the predetermined special effect; and

a transmission section operable to transmit the content, the specific data, and the management data to the terminal device.

**16. (Currently Amended)** The contents distribution apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the specific data is special effects data which is generated based on information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which ~~apply~~ the predetermined special effect is to be applied.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the specific data is attribute data consisting of information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which apply the predetermined special effect is to be applied.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a content selection section operable to select, as the specific data, either special effects data which is generated based on information concerning a type of the predetermined special effect and a portion of the content to which apply the predetermined special effect is to be applied, or attribute data consisting of the information concerning the type and the portion, such that the special effects data is selected for ~~said a~~ terminal device having a relatively low processing ability and the attribute data is selected for ~~said a~~ terminal device having a relatively high processing ability.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution apparatus according to claim 18, wherein ~~the said~~ content selection section ~~selects~~ is operable to select the specific data to be appended to the content based on processing ability information which is supplied from the terminal device.

20. **(Original)** The contents distribution apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a data storage section operable to store the management data.

21. **(Currently Amended)** The contents distribution apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a distribution content reproduction confirmation section operable to reproduce, for confirmation, the content with or without the predetermined special effect in accordance with the flag in the management data set by ~~the said~~ content management data setting section.